El Caballero

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL | NOVEMBER 26, 1986 | VOLUME LXIX | NUMBER 4

Debaters win at UOP

by Patchen Markell

Three members of the El Cerrito High School Forensics team advanced to the elimination rounds at the University of the Pacific Invitational tournament on the weekend of November 14, despite tough competition from 60 other high schools throughout the State.

Lincoln-Douglas debater Senior Tina Goldberg won all of her preliminary rounds and the first elimination round, finishing as a varsity quarter finalist at the meet.

Team debaters Seniors Tony Craddock and Connie Anderson also advanced in team debate, winning 4 out of 5 preliminary rounds before losing in octofinals to the College Prep team which eventually won the tournament.

Tina was debating on both sides of the topic "Resolved that the juvenile justice system does not meet the needs of contemporary American society," and Tony and Connie debated whether "the federal government should implement a comprehensive, long-term agricultural policy in the U.S."

All of the E.C. competitors are hard at work preparing for upcoming tournaments. Two debate teams are currently in Chicago at a pair of national circut contests, and the squad will head south for the Loyola Invitaional during Christmas break.

Gauchos get juiced!

Freshman show spirit at their first Homecoming game.

Child abuse project warns students

by Melissa Robinson

The Child Abuse protection Project, being presented in the english classes of E.C.H.S., is coming to a close. This program was designed to help teenagers learn how to protect themselves against physical and sexual violence. It does this by enabling them to detect warning signs and thus find possible ways to escape from an abusive situation.

The program is aimed at kindergarten, first, elementary and secondary audiences. It operates on a format of first analyzing the listeners' emotions towards painful experiences in their lives and also during moments where they caused others grief. From there, thye help the audience discern situaitons where violence of any nature might occur and how to either avoid or divert its' effects.

Bleachers born again

by Jonathan Bradley

The junior class led by president Marie Amoore managed to overcome obstacles and paint the bleachers during homecoming week.

The idea came when Amoore who was looking for a project for the junior class noticed that other schools had painted bleachers. "a few other schools around here have done it and it looks really nice and our class wanted to show the spirit of the school," Amoore stated.

The project had to overcome a few obstacles, first the juniors had to convince the faculty that their project was worthwhile. After hearing the idea the faculty agreed to let them paint the bleachers.

Next the juniors had to get approval from the union because they are in charge of school work and improvements but after some unsure moments they were again given permission to paint.

The weather unfortunately was working against the juniors. A period of rain slowed progress because the juniors had to wait a few days to let the benches dry . The next week callled for rain but fortunately their luck changed.

The juniors used eight gallons to make the EC and the artistic green and white designs. Says Marie, "we were hoping to paint the press box but we ran out of paint, hopefully we can

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Battle of Bands debuts

by Darren Kani

On Friday, November 7, the first "Battle of the Bands" took place in the pit area after the homecoming parade and a sizeable crowd appeared to witness the proceedings. Among the bands were "Gel", "Side Effect", "Rock Zevin" and "Vomitorium".

The band that created the most impact that afternoon was "Vomitorium". It was a punk-metal group that consisted of seniors Gideon Zaretsky on guitar, John Gossard on bass, and David Trumbull on vocals (during "my cat is defective").

During their set, the crowd started thrashing about, throwing each other around and ramming heads. Principal Mrs. Anna Blackman and Ms. O'Brian were not at all pleased with this and had to break up the crowd. Vomitorium was forced to stop playing.

After a late start "Gel" performed first. They played a set of three songs that included the popular song "Stand By Me". The group consisted of sophomores Tamiko Katsumoto and Janna Matsuoka and junior Richard Kwan. During "Stand By Me" the crowd sang along with Richard.

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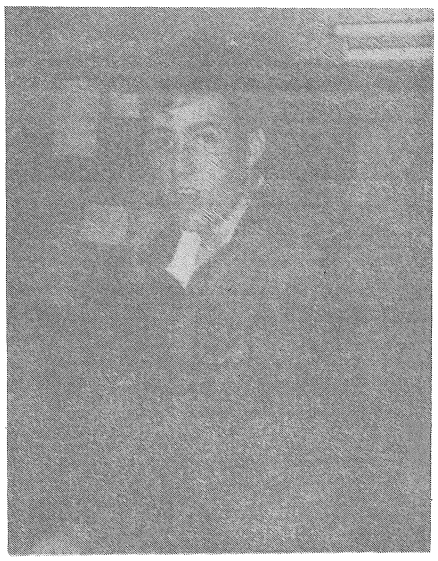
Brian Jay of "Rock Zevin" sings at the first Battle of The Bands.

ECHS students learn essential skills

by Jonathan Bradley and Ellisa Sagle

How we communicate with our peers, our parents, our teachers, or our siblings tells us and other people what is essential about ourselves. Communication is an important factor for our mental health. through it we are able to express our emotions and perhaps resolve or learn to deal with pressing problems.

This year a 5-year old idea among Contra Costa County high schools will begin. It is called Conflict Management. The purpose of this program is to have students help other students resolve conflicts without getting the Deans or other administration involved. Hopefully, the approach will result in fewer suspensions and better overall relations on the El Cerrito High campus.



Member of the Conflict Management team, Matt Cone says, "Kids listen to other kids more than they do to adults."

150 students were recommended by teachers based on the their leadership qualities. From the original list about 60 students were called in and interviewed about how they dealt with prejudice. Hopefully, the interview would give an idea of how the student deals with people.

After the interview, a team of 34 students was selected to participate in a 3-day training session dealing with the essential communication skills needed to be a Conflict Manager.

Although many felt that Conflict Management was a good idea we did have some misgivings. First of all we had to make up three days of the work we missed being trained and we would also miss the homecoming activies. However, most thought the program was well worth the time.

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QUESTION WOMAN

What do you have to be thankful for?

by Michelle Tang

Cindy Berner, Soph, age 15 Some of my friends.

Wendy McConnell, Soph, age 15 Health, and that I'm not poverty-stricken, and that I'm living in America, the land of the free. And that I have my family to share Thanksgiving with.

David Trumbull, Senior, age 17 Well, see, I'm thankful for my beloved school that I attend, and this wonderful democratic nation that I am proud to be a part of. I'm also glad and thankful for calculated lies. I'm thankful for a brain that works half the time (almost).

Nadine Akky, Soph, age 15 my friends and that very special person.

Exclusive Interview: Principal Sound Project

by Tyler Wong

Have you ever been at a dance or potluck and said to yourself,"Man, the DJ's not playing the right music. Now if I was Djing I could play anything I want, all the good stuff. How Hard could it be to put records on a turntable?" According to one DJ service, Principal Sound Project, it's not that easy.

Principal Sound Project consists of co-founders Craig Wong and Ross Okamura alopng with Patrick Wong(no relation), Mako Jitodai, Maurice Conti, Ed Aw, and Ernie Ngo.

"When I first started," remembers Okamura, "I thought I could plan out what I wanted to play, but when you put on your favorite song and people stop dancing or they start screaming to put on something else, you don't have any choice but to take it off."

"It's a no-win situation," says Wong(Craig), "What really bothers me is that it always gets racist. The beat gets labeled as 'black' and modern gets labeled as 'white'. And when I put on one or the other i hear 'turn off that "black" music' or 'turn off that "White" music'."

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Music: helpful or harmful?

by Marrisa Taylor

Is it true that listening to music while studying really help's the mind work better? Most of the students at El Cerrito High school feel that it does.

"Listening to music while studying helps me concentrate better," states sophomore Christina Dutton.

"The beat make's me work faster," remarks Junior Elise Hankins.

The question posed to a few faculty members and students was "does music while studying affect a child's ability to learn?"

Counselor Mrs. Cannon, Remarked, "whether a child can study while listening to music depends on the child and the power of concentration."

Chemistry teacher Mr.Fabini remarked "a child shouldn't listen to music they like because it will distract them from their studies. Yet if it is helpful, then it should be used."

Mr. Beck, a retired teacher of El Cerrito High school, used to play classical music while his science class worked. It didn't seem to distract the students.

So the next time you listen to the Scorpions, Cameo, the Beasty Boy's or In xs, check your level of concentration!!

EC model acts on television

by Tim Davis

To many of us she was just another face in the Cerrito halls until she appeared in the CBS move "Johnnie Mae Gibson:FBI" Now almost everyone seems to have seen her face somewhere before.

In the premire movie, freshman Zorana Eben portrayed Ruth Meldon, the sister of the main character. Though the role was small, it was important.

Zorana has been modeling, acting, singing, and dancing since she the age of five, doing commercials and ads for Great America, the state litter campaign, Macys, and other well known department stores. However, Zorana says that this is only part of what she wants to do with her life, but she will always perform when she can.

Many actors believe that the theater is far better than the movies. Zorana believes that being in front of the camera is like being before a huge audience, and that it gets a closer perspective on emotions and abilities.

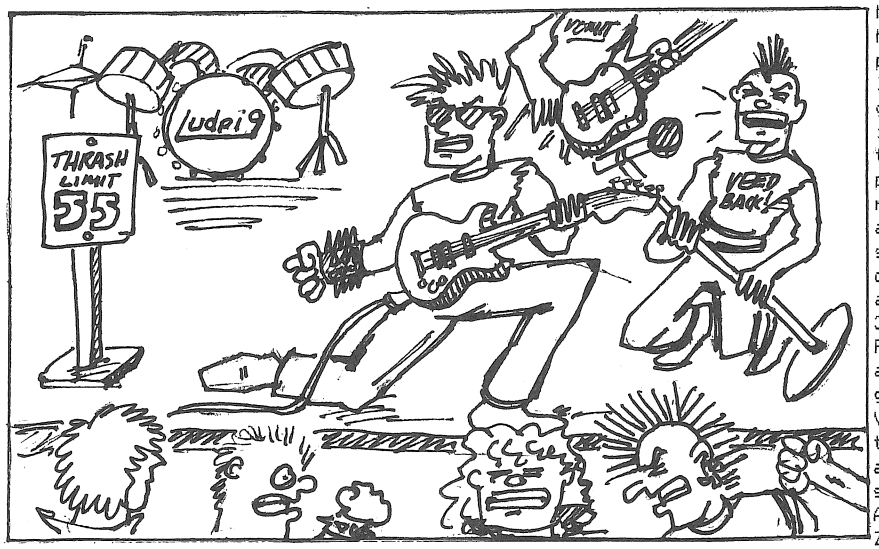
Before the movie, Zorana knew a lot of people; now she knows even more, and is living with false affection from many, who before barely glanced at her. Now they call her their best friend. Most of Zorana's friends are much older than she, the youngest being in her twenties. Through mutual friends she has made the acquaintances of "The Color Purple" stars, Dany Glover and Whoopie Goldberg.

Although Eben's live has been more glamourous than others, and she has been far luckier than a good many aspiring actors, she is down to earth, open, talkative, out-going and good people in general. Good luck to you Zorana Eben.

Vomitorium gets mopped up

by Jef Bekes

In what must be considered a major fiasco, one of many on our gloomy homecoming of 1986, El Cerrito High School's "Battle of the Bands" was an event that many of us will choose to forget. The event itself was poorly organized, but then again, so are half of the other student run events. It was not entirely the fault of the organizers though. The problem lies in the fact that some of the bands were shortchanged in the amount of time they were allowed to play.



The original schedule for the bands allowed each band thirty minutes for set-up and performance. One of the bands scheduled to play was Vomitorium. They were the first band to sign up for the event and also went through the trouble of borrowing a PA system which was used by all the bands. Yet, after their first song, they were rudely interrupted and told they had to get off the stage. The result- Vomitorium was only granted a ten minute set, and many of their fans were disappointed.

Following Vomitorium was a band called Side Effect who, despite the fact that they came on after Vomitorium, got to play four songs, well beyond the ten minutes Vomitorium managed to scrounge. When you look at and listen to both bands, you can't help but notice that they are different. Vomitorium tends to play fast and abrasive music, and their lyrics aren't something I would read for a bedtime story, while Side Effect sticks to a more conventional style of music. Both bands are good, but Vomitorium is definitely the more controversial and offensive of the two, something they take great pride in. Their "Ad Nauseum" philosophy, summed up by bassist John Gossard as "Vomit 'til you die to death, or not," is more of a tool to annoy the general public than a code of life. One can't help but wonder if this was why they were kicked off stage.

Not wanting to jump to any conclusions, I decided to ask those in charge why Vomitorium was told to leave the stage. According to Mrs. O'Brien, the person who told them to get off, there wasn't enough time left to have Side Effect play and still have the concert end at 3:24 so people could catch their buses. I don't like to make generalizations, but let's face it, the type of people who listen to Vomitorium aren't the type of people who catch their buses home right afterschool, especially on a Friday. Nonetheless, some students probably did have to catch buses, but a simple announcement saying, "Hey, it's 3:24," would have done the job. Furthermore, if they were in such a hurry, why was Side Effect given twice as much time as Vomitorium? In the middle of their first song, Vomitorium announced that they were here to spread the word about the Devil. According to guitarist Gideon Zaretsky, Vomitorium is not a Satanic band, and instead, they tend to poke fun at Satanists and use it to annoy and offend people. I seriously doubt that after seeing Vomitorium anyone would become so mesmerized by

Mistaking the real thing

by Ellisa Sagle

Having fun is important. Relieving ourselves of th pressures that life brings us is needed so that we can be relaxed and clear-minded to face another day. But these days statistics show that too many of us young adults are mistaking artificial substances for real fun. Nobody should feel that a person needs drugs or alcohol to have fun at a party, a game, or even just hangin' out with the guys.

I,as well as many of my friends, believe that the main reason why people turn to alcohol and drugs is because of peer pressure. Peers can be very powerful to a weak person; someone who is trying to find his own identity. This someone usually feels that if they start to get involved with drugs, they will finally be somebody.

But as a recovering 'druggie' and alcoholic, who will remain nameless, once said to me, "Drugs take away your dreams so that all you are is a 'druggie';stealing, cheating , and lying. It's all lies," he said. "You're never anybody but a 'druggie'."

Peer pressure will always exist so long as there is more than one person in this world. I believe, however, that high school students are becoming more aware of drugs.

Students should hold parties without drugs being offered.

It is true that it will take a long time and a lot of hard work to change people's attitudes about drugs and alcohol, but we might as well start now.

Those who believe that taking an assertive stand against the use of drugs are somebodies, while those who advocate the use of drugs to be popular are the real nobodies.

The Federalist Papers

by Andrew M. Kaplan

Finally, after eleven years of dilly-dallying, a new constitution has been drafted for the Student Association. At last there is a replacement for the outdated document that the SA has been ignoring. If they ignore this one, then they are a bunch of fools. But they won't have to worry about it if we, the student body, don't even ratify it.

As I've said before, the student body needs to be more aware of what's going on in the Student Association. Last edition we recieved a heap of letters to the editor complaining about the way our rallies are being run. The SA organizes the rallies, so obviously these people have a quibble with the SA. However, as our SA President, Jill Taketa, would probably say, you can't just complain without trying to help. Well, here's your chance to try to help!

The SA will be holding a forum to discuss and debate the new constitution. The exact date has yet to be announced, but it won't be too far in the future. It behooves all students who care at all about what the SA does to come. I'll be there, and if I don't see anyone else, then I won't want to hear any complaining about the SA from anybody. If you don't give a damn now when it counts, then you have no right to gripe about things if they do not agree with you.

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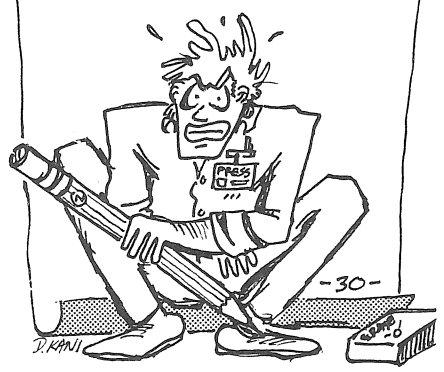

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Men's hoop hopeful; Ladies want NCS title

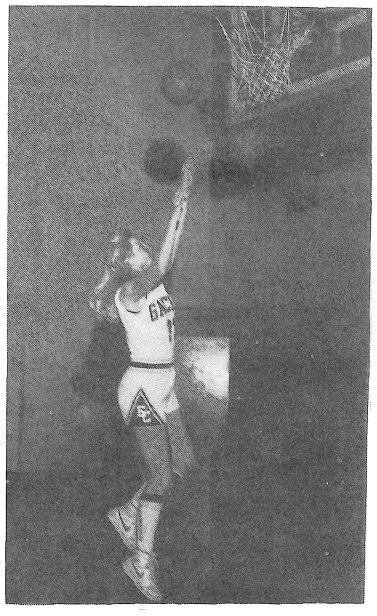
by Amy Page

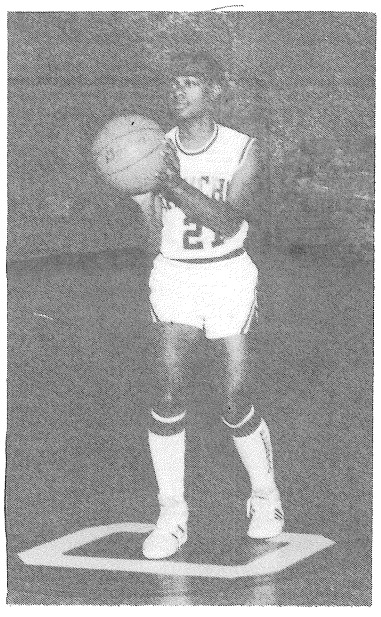
Coach Chris Huber likes the enthusiasm, dedication and comraderie of his men's basketball team. Huber is "looking forward to a real good year" in his first season at El Cerrito.

The Gauchos are a young, quick and talented team--a contender for the GBAL title. Huber praises the competition, and places EC among the top three teams along with Berkeley and De LaSalle.

Last year, the Hoopsters placed fourth in the Richmond Berkeley Athletic League standings with a 3-5 record (8-16 overall). The Gauchos advanced to the league playoffs but lost to Berkeley. Seniors Rod Battle, Robert Churchill, Brent Daniels and Damone Kirtley were lost to graduation.

Returning players from last year's team are seniors Raymond Ford and James Sloan; juniors Anthony Colbert, Brandon Lee, Myron Mason and Terry Thomad; and sophomore Quentin Youngblood. New Gaucho players are senior Joel Weinstein, juniors Steven Tanuz and transfer David Williams, and sophomore Charles Brown.





Seniors Linda Schultz and Lauren Strickland eye GBAL and NCS titles.

Ford will start at point-guard and Youngblood wil fill in the other starting guard position. Colbert and Lee will be the starting forwards. For now, Sloan is the starting center but Williams is expected to challenge him for that spot as soon as he is cleared for eligibility.

by Amy Page

The Lady Hoopsters have their hearts and minds set on winning the North Coast championships this season.

Under Bill Hardin, in his fifth year coaching, the Gauchos look strong. Last season, the women's basketball team went 8-0 (22-6 overall) in the Richmond Berkeley Athletic League to win the title crown. They advanced to the North Coast Section playoffs, but lost a heartbreaker in the second round to Granada, 48-40.

Returning players are senior captains Lisa Nakamura, Linda Schultz, and Lauren Strickland; and seniors Kari Chew, Angela DeSimoni, Kristine Mayeda, and Janet Schultz; and sophomores Casie Espinosa and Vicki and Veronica Kalu.

The only new addition to this year's team is transfer, Erica Hardwick. The 5'11" sophomore will start at center. According to Hardin, in the past, the only weak aspect of the team, was,"lack of height, but with Erica, that's pretty much taken care of."

In a scrimmage game on Wednesday on Nov. 19, beat California High, 44-26. In that game, Linda Schultz injured her wrist and will have to sit out for a few weeks. Until she recovers, the starting five will be Hardwick, Vicki Kalu, Nakamura, Janet Schultz, and Strickland.

Hardin looks foreward to playing in the GBAL. He feels it will be a lot more competitive than the RBAL and also a lot more fun. The Gauchos will face tough competition, especially from Berkeley, but Hardin believes the Gauchos will take the league champoinship by outhustling their opponents, and will advance to NCS.

Wrestling hits mat

by Dmitri Mehlhorn

The El Cerrito wrestling team will have a completely new look this year. In addition to losing five wrestlers to graduation, the Gauchos also lost their coach, Bill Lawler. But the new coach, Randy Takahashi, with his strict and intense program, hopes to lead the team to repeat as league champions.

Takahashi, a graduate of El Cerrito High, once was a varsity gaucho wrestler. Before coming to El Cerrito, he coached at Berkeley. In addition to being the wrestling coach, he is a substitute teacher here at El Cerrito.

Takahashi has brought with him, a strict training program that includes long and hard workouts, and a strictly enforced four point system. Each time a wrestler misses a practice, he loses a point. In addition, a half point deduction is taken for tardies. When a wrestler loses four points, he is released from the team. The new system has already taken it's toll, as one varsity wrestler has already been suspended from action, junior Kevin Mukai.

Returning varsity wrestlers include sophomores Aaron Green, Troy Jennings and CJ Belcher, and seniors Joe Shrum, Chaun Connors, Roland Evans, Shawn Garrett and Dan Ward.

The Gauchos will face tough competition in the new league, and will be less experienced due to the loss of six varsity wrestlers. But hopefully, with the rigorous training program of Takahashi, and the leadership of all the seniors, the Gauchos will be able to repeat as league champs.

North Coast Playoffs saved

by Amy Page

The North Coast Secion fall palyoffs were saved from cancellation after it obtained the liability insurance needed to cover atheltic injuries.

The coverage, provided by Robert E. Steuart Insurance Services through the National Federal Purchasing Group, leaves the NCS with a $4,865 budget deficit.

The new policy expires December 31, 1986, so the winter and spring playoffs are still in jeopardy until the California Interscholastic Federation and NCS can achieve a long term solution or extend the coverage.

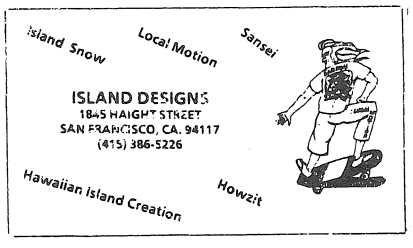
Soccer goal: win GBAL crown

by Jeffrey Pryde

Men's soccer , coming off a 5-7 record last year in the old Richmond Berkeley Athletic League, will try to make a run at the GBAL crown. However this will not be easy with teams like De La Salle , Alameda , Pinole Valley , Berkeley,and Kennedy standing in their way.

"most of last year's is returning. We have some good talent this year. We hope to pick up from last year." remarks Coach Catao. Some of the returning players are first team all league senior Larry Hengl , second team goalie Kirk Edwards , Chris Ward juniors Rune Hoyer-Nielson Jef Bekes , Darrion Nash ,and all RBAL Danny Smith and sophomore Josh Merritt and John Baker.

In their first year at ECHS the women's Soccer Team won 4 games. Although they didn't win their division they won an award from the North Coast Section for having the highest grade point average in the entire NCS."We worked as a team and we did pretty well as a beginning team." says Sophomore Elena Gardella. Some of the returning players are seniors Michelle barocca Jennifer bartholemew Juniors Jennifer Kakigi, Michelle Dea and Sophomores Lori Okamura and Elena Gardella."we have a lot of new players this year and I know that we will add a lot Gaucho spirit for the team."remarks first year player Kathy Gutman.



FOOTBALL ENDS ON WINNING NOTE

by Craig Wong

In the final game of the season, the Gaucho football team redeemed themselves with a 32-6 thrashing of the Berkeley Yellowjackets. The vicotory gave the Gauchos a final record of 2-3 in the GBAL and 6-4 overall.

The Gauchos showed their dominance early, jumping out to a 20-6 halftime lead, on touchdown runs by Sidney Johnson and Kevin Harris, and a touchdown pass from quarterback Brad Brown to Freddie Abdullah.

The Gaucho defense was awesome, looking like the mighty EC defense of yesteryears. They shut down the Yellowjacket offense completely, yielding only four first downs and a mere 91 total yards. The defense also forced three fumbles and intercepted Berkeley quarterbacks three times.

The lone Berkeley score came on an 88-yard kickoff return by Lorenzo Franklin in the second quarter.

The Gaucho offense proved unstoppable, walking over Berkeley for 324 total yards. Darnell Davidson dominated the rushing offense, totalling 107 yards on 14 carries for the afternoon. As always, the duo of Brown and Abdullah mystified the defense, connecting six times for 134 yards and two touchdowns.

On homecoming night, Nov. 7, the Gauchos were upset by the Alameda Hornets, 41-14.

The Gauchos caught the Hornets off guard, scoring 14 points before the Alameda offense ran a play. The Gauchos took the opening kickoff and drove 51 yards in 13 plays, with Davidson taking in in from two yards out. Andre Gibson fell on an Alameda fumble on the ensuing kickoff. Davidson once again scored, this time on an exciting 30 yard run.

But the Hornets came back, dominating play from that point on. Alameda left the field at halftime with a 21-14 lead, and continued where they left off, scoring 20 more points in the third quarter.

Congratulations to the Gaucho football team on their season. Special recognition is in order for players named to the All-GBAL second team: senior Brad Brown at Quarterback; senior Fred Abdullah at wide reciever; senior Lee Ferguson at guard; senior Shawn Garrett at defensive lineman; senior Erik Jackson at offensive tackle; and junior Darnel Davison at halfback.

Seniors Bobby Joseph and Danny Bell were also honored in the San Francisco Sundday Examiner & Chronicle as top prospects on college recruiting lists.

Volleyball ends year

by Amy Page

The Gaucho spikers gave it their all in a gutsy attempt in a loss to Berkeley in the opening round of the GBAL volleyball playoffs. The Yellowjackets overpowered El Cerrito in the Berkeley gymnasium, Wednesday, November 12, 15-7, 15-7, 15-4.

The Gauchos finished the regular season with a 4-6 record to put them in a tie for third place with the Alameda Hornets. El Cerrito's overall record was 5-8, including the playoff game.

Berkeley dominated all three games with powerful spikes, blocks, and unanswered serves. The Yellowjackets were led by Karen Wichner, Morgan Cecil and Sarah Christenson.

In the opening game, EC led 2-0 on senior Lisa Nakamura serves and a leaping block by senior Janet Schultz. Sophomore Casie Espinosa and Schultz added serving points to up the score to 4-2 before Berkeley took control of the match.

Sopjomore Erica Hardwick later cut the lead to 8-5 with a leaping block of a Berkeley spike to fire up the Gaucho bench and crowd.

In the other two games, Berkeley took early leads and bever looked back. El Cerrito was sed by hitters Schultz, Hardwick and junior Patty Osorio. They were unable to capitalize on opportunities because of Gaucho passing and setting breakdowns.

SCHEDULES

Women's Basketball

DATE	OPPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
11/29	James Logan	Home	12:30
12/2	Acalanes	Away	7:00
12/3	Richmond	Home	6:30
12/5	Bishop O'Dowd	Home	6:00
12/9	James Logan	Away	7:30
12/11-12/13	Skyline High Tourney	Away	TBA
12/16	Newark Memorial	Away	7:30
12/18	Moreau	Away	TBA

Men's Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
11/29	Castlemont	Away	3:00
12/3-12/6	Marin Catholic Tourney	Away	TBA
12/9	Oakland Tech	Home	5:00
12/12	Skyline	Home	7:00
12/16	Vallejo	Home	7:30
12/20	Ed Hopkins Tourney	Away	TBA

Wrestling

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
12/4	Alhambra (scrimmage)	Home	4:00
12/6	El Cerrito Tournament	Home	all day
12/10	Monte Vista	Away	5:15
12/17	Tennyson (scrimmage)	Away	5:00
12/19	Clayton Valley Holiday Classic	Away	all day

Lehman strides to NorCal

The El Cerrito X-country team ran in their last meet of the season on Saturday November 22nd. The men's team finished in 7th place while the women's team also finshed in a non-qualifying 8th place. The top 3 teams qualified for the Northern California Championships.

Senior Veli Lehman was the only Gaucho to qualify for the Nor Cal meet. She placed 5th and the top 7 individuals advance to next weeks championships. Lehman placed 5th at the North Coast meet one week earlier. The Gaucho Women's had other outstanding performances. Debra Binnall, who missed most of the season with Mononucleosis, was the second Gaucho across the finish line. Her final place was 20th. Sophomore Lori Okumura finished 48th. Jessica Beuhring, Marisa Gardella, and Noel Montoya rounded out the Varsity team.

The Men's team did not have an impressive day. Junior Morgan Mc Clarty placed 26th, he was the only Gaucho in the top 40. Seniors Alex Da Silva, and Roland Evans, Juniors Steve Turnipseed, Brian John, and Chris McDonald, and Sophomore Nate Stalhut completed the Varsity team.

Lehman will be competing in the Northern California Championships on Saturday, November 29th.

Both the men's and women's teams placed 2nd in the GBAL meet and 6th at the North Coast Section 3A meet.

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4900 Barrett at San Pablo Ave., Richmond

Bands CONTINUED

Next came the group "Rock Zevin", with sophomores Jim Ragsdale on keyboard, Josh Garey on bass and David Jeans on guitar. Freshman Dustin Hengl played drums and special guest singer, Brian Jay, rattled the audience with screaming vocals. They played two sets that featured "Purple Haze" by the late Jimi Hendrix and "A Surf Song", their own song.

Last of all, "Side Effect" took the stage. They were Juniors Darryl Laferte, drums, Paul Zahnley, guitar, Kelly Hale, Vocals, and Brian Hoagland on bass. They played songs by "The Police"; "Message In A Bottle", "Roxanne", and "Next To You". They also played "Shock" their own composition.

By the finish of the "Battle of the Bands", it was 3:45. The people in the crowd seemed to enjoy it. "It was a bit unorganized, but I had fun", said one.

Richard Kwan of "Gel" sings his heart out.

Squid comes to EC

by Jamie Jung

Most people probably do not know too much about Captain Squid, El Cerrito High's newest superhero. Captain Squid is the latest underground comic going around.

Graphic artist Darren Kani, the Mastermind behind Captain Squid, says he draws underground comics "mainly because they are a lot of fun. It's a good way for me to get my material exposed to the general public and see if they like it. It's like a publicity stunt." Darren Kani draws and writes the current storylines for Captain Squid, but Brian Hoagland came up with the initial ideas.

Marlin Puggs, aka Captain Squid, was on a Mrs. Gosnell Biology Fieldtrip off of the coast of New Zealand when he was attacked by a giant squid. He only remembers waking up in his hosital bed and then suddenly transforming uncontrolabaly into his half squid, half human form. Recently, he has been able to control his transfomantions, but occasionally he still transforms uncontrollably.

Just like any other superhero, Captain Squid has his own super powers. In his half human, half squid form, he has super strength and extra suction power (ESP) with his tentacles. On the defense, he can shoot out ink from his belly button to confuse an enemy. The only weakness known is his eyes. In his squid/human state, they are very sensitive so he has to wear sunglasses. He can also swim at tremendiously fast speeds; he is limited to this speed because his squid/human form is not built to flow easily through water. Also, unlike most everyday squids, Captain Squid can stay out of water indefinately because his skin secretes special secretions to keep it moist.

Captain Squid's newest adversary is Paco Burrito, who has a geneticly perfect bull that can destroy anything known to man. We'll have to see what happens.

Bleachers CONTINUED

get some more and paint a few more sections."

The juniors who painted decided to paint their initials and a large 88 but painted over it because it was for the school and not for the credit of the clas. One junior states that "It was kind of tacky, it was one of those ideas that is good when you're doing it but it looked pretty bad in the morning."

Many students and teachers agree that the bleachers look a lot better now.

PSP CONTINUED

Wong has a solution. "I try to play what the crowd seems to enjoy the most, but if everyone danced to everything then there wouldn't be any problems of too much of one type of music."

The main reason Okamura and Wong got together was because of the lack of variety previous DJ's had.

"A lot of people were reluctant to come to school activities because of the music," states Okamura,"We thought we'd be doing the school a favor."

PSP also does the school favors with low prices. "There's no set price," says Wong. "There are a lot of DJ's that are better than us but they don't want to waste time with school function since they charge more than the school can afford. We set the price on the ability to pay. We don't do this for the money anyway."

Recently, PSP sought help from KECG's Scott Fujita. "He showed us better methods of mixing," says Okamura,'and started teaching us how to scratch. Neither is as easy as a lot of people think, and mixing is very important. "

Although they've had a steady flow of jobs, they're still looking for them. "The more jobs, the more experience," says Okamura. "It's a lot of fun, too."

Conflict management CONTINUED

When we arrived at Adams, our training center, we went to the cafeteria and were told that students from De Anza were also coming.When de Anza arrived you could feel the tension mounting in the air and EC spoke to EC and De Anza did the same.We sat on one side of the room and they were on the other.

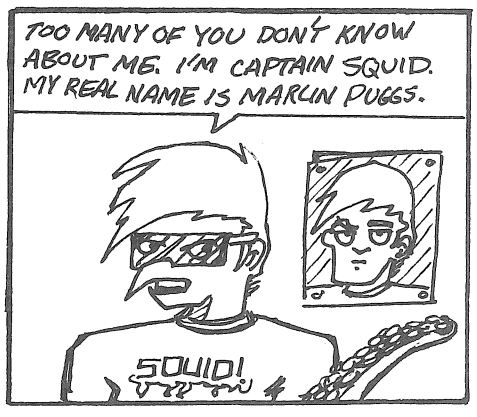
The session began with a warm up exercise that had us finding a person we didn't know and becoming a pair, we talked and then we formed a group which got us to know each other better. As we did these exercises the schools began to become more relaxed and sit among ours schools.

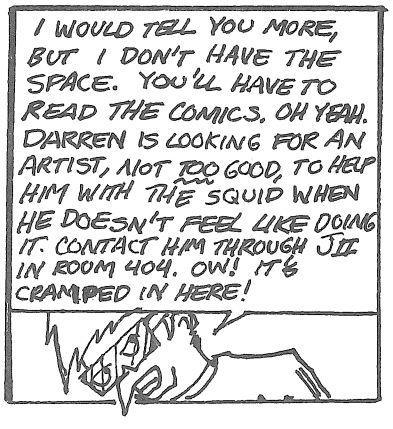
the main purpose of the program was for us to be able to help solve conflicts. We were given instruction on active listening in which we learned to listen not only to what the person was saying but also how they were feeling. We shared experiences with each other and learned to help people deal with their problems and not to become authorritive. The third day we all had gotten to know each other a little better and many of us were happy for the experience but were sad that it was over.

Vomitorium CONTINUED

their music that they will go around drinking blood and sacrificing goats. Everyone should be able to express his views whether it be Vomitorium or Gospel Choir.

As for the reason Vomitorium was kicked off, we may never know. Perhaps some people felt threatened by their crude behavior and unorthodox thoughts. Or, maybe we just have a bunch of right wing conservatives who are deathly afraid of anything different. Unless we open our minds a little and give everything a fair chance, El Cerrito High School will become a haven for conservative minded stubbornness.




I WOULD TELL YOU MORE, BUT I DON'T HAVE THE SPACE. YOU'LL HAVE TO READ THE COMICS. OH YEAH. DARREN IS LOOKING FOR AN ARTIST, NOT TOO GOOD, TO HELP HIM WITH THE SQUID WHEN HE DOESN'T FEEL LIKE DOING IT. CONTACT HIM THROUGH JII IN ROOM 404. OW! IT'S CRAMPED IN HERE!

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